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## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. LEE of California) at noon.

## PRAYER

Reverend Jeffrey F. Kirby, Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Indian Land, South Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Good and gracious God, You have ordered all things according to Your laws of goodness and righteousness.

You bless all Your children with equal dignity and endow them with talents to pursue happiness. In Your kindness, You inspire and raise up leaders for Your people.

We ask You to bless this House of Representatives, made up of these leaders, and to bless their work during today's session. Grant them prudence and fortitude. May they seek Your divine wisdom and give You due homage in all their deliberations and decisions. May they always seek the common good, the public benefit, and true justice and peace for all.

We ask all these blessings from You, who are the Lord God and the giver of life, forever and ever.

Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. CISNEROS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CISNEROS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## WELCOMING REVEREND JEFFREY F. KIRBY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and nominate today's guest, Father Jeffrey Kirby, to serve as guest chaplain for the noon prayer.

Father Kirby, pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish in South Carolina and the adjunct professor of theology at Belmont Abbey College, is a devout follower of Jesus Christ and lives his life as a light unto others.

Father Kirby received his bachelor of arts and master's degree from Franciscan University of Steubenville before receiving his doctorate in moral theology from Holy Cross University in Rome.

His selflessness led him to enlist in the National Guard during his studies, and he even served on a relief effort for Hurricane Mitch.

In 2002, he entered seminary in Rome and was ordained a Catholic priest. He has since served parishes across South Carolina, from Clemson to Walhalla to Seneca to Columbia and now Lancaster.

Governor Nikki Haley selected him in 2016 to receive the Order of the Palmetto, our State's highest civilian honor.

In His word, and one that exemplifies Father Kirby's life, the Book of Malachi 2:7 reads: "For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts."

In light of his many years of ministry, it is my honor to welcome Father Kirby as the guest chaplain of the United States House of Representatives.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

## CONGRATULATING 2020 CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS

(Mr. CISNEROS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor and congratulate 13 elementary schools in California's 39th District for their selection as 2020 California Distinguished Schools.

The 39th District elementary schools awarded this distinction include: Aca-cia, Blandford, Buena Terra, Charles G. Emery, Golden, Hidden Trails, Killian, Laguna Road, Laurel Elementary Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration, Mesa Robles, Robert C. Fisler, Wedgeworth, and Ybarra Academy of Arts and Technology.

Our students' success is a testament not only to their dedication but also to the tireless efforts made by educators, administrators, staff, and parents.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my honorable colleagues join me in congratulating these 13 California distinguished schools for their tremendous educational achievements.

## CELEBRATING SCHOOL CHOICE

(Mr. LAMBORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise during this week to celebrate school choice.

Americans lose their freedom when parents aren't allowed to decide on their own where to send their children to school. A one-size-fits-all approach doesn't encourage growth for the next generation of Americans.

In March, the Supreme Court will be hearing oral arguments for the case of Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue. The Court's decision could have important ramifications for public funding of private and public schools.

In my district, I am proud of the work being done by Steve and Joyce Schuck, champions of the school choice movement in Colorado. Steven Woodford is also doing great work for the homeschool communities of Colorado.

These key leaders in our community are enabling students to have educational opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have.

Colorado is making great strides in the school choice movement, and I am proud to represent both the community leaders who facilitate it and the talented students of this generation.

## COMMEMORATING TODD PORTUNE AND NATHANIEL JONES

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor two iconic Cincinnati leaders who passed away over the weekend.

On Saturday, we lost longtime Hamilton County Commissioner and former Cincinnati City Councilman Todd Portune.

Todd was a true leader, willing to put aside political differences and work together on issues to benefit our community. He was also someone I considered not only a respected colleague but a friend.

Then, on Sunday, Cincinnati suffered another loss with the passing of Judge Nathaniel Jones.

As a civil rights leader, a Federal judge, and a person, Judge Jones was one of those rare people who was universally admired and respected. Having worked with Thurgood Marshall on Brown v. Board of Education, having helped South Africa overcome apartheid, and having served as general counsel for the NAACP, Judge Jones not only improved the lives of people in Cincinnati but across the country and, in fact, across the globe.

Madam Speaker, while Cincinnati will sorely miss Commissioner Portune and Judge Jones, their accomplishments will be felt by our community and across our Nation for generations to come.

## SUPPORT PROTESTERS IN REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1